7/22/70

Dear Harold(cc Dick),

Your mailing the the 20th was the first thing I8ve gotten in 5 days, so it was more than usually welcome.

Will write Skolnock further as you suggest.

Shirt pix: This matter runs through all of your enclosed letters. As you know and as the letter I'm mailing enclosed in this envelop explains, I'd like prints of all three shirt pix you now have--slits, back, and back-blow-up. My copies of front did not come out good, not much better than what we had before with screen.

Neck wound theories: You seemed to be suggesting to Dick that he explain the necessity for a hole in the tie if the slit is to be the result of bullet/fragment. I don't believe this addresses the theory I recently put forth, about fragment exiting front. That theory allows for the wound to be above the collar, as I am rather persuaded it was. If it were below the collar, it would have to have been in such a way that it did not touch shirt. This means it wasn't entrance and, if exit, it was stopped by the shirt, didn't penetrate the shirt, and plopped down between chest and shirt. I believe Helpern suggested this is Hout's book.

My whole point was to offer other possible explanations of what happened in that area. As I said, none of this is absolutely proved, and may never be. Despite the gems which turn up and which you, of course, have produced, we are still inhibited by the original shambles of the autopsy. Because that area wasn't dissected, we are really screwed. Right now, the X-rays and the internal bruise pix are vital. However, if lateral X-rays and the internal pix (both of which were taken) are gone (the panel saw neither), then we are further screwed.

Newspaper clips: I just cut out stuff in which I assume you'd have interest. Enclosed with this are several things. I send the Agnew clip to show what a well humored VP we have. I can just imagine them pulling him off the stage as he said "Did you hear the one about the 20,000 troops in Vietnam?" I'm surprised the Mitchell story was not written by Martha Mitchell. You may take interest in the Saul Freidman story. He seems to have good ins in the DJ, as he has had good info in other stories which I sent you. Need I say anything about the one telling that June Oswald proclaimed "My daddy killed him" when discussing JFK in school?

Photos: I'll send Dick the 13 pix I got from Newcomb soon (these are described in enclosed letter). He can make slides for all of us, and I can reimburse him. Newcomb is very decent about these things, sending me the stuff even before I pay. Lifton still has not come through on anything, having the money over a month, promising the stuff a week and a half ago.

Back meas: I did take notice in difference of locations--prone, sitting, various arm positions. The arm positions produced the greatest variations. I was not working with specifics for that is impossible--just general location.

Credit: My concern (other than that you might not have wanted

used at all) was that you might not have wanted citations specifically to PMs but to you yourself. When I credit this, should I treat it as an ordinary published book? I know it has this legal standing, but I'm thinking in terms of the accredation you desire.

The book goes rather slow--progress is medium but at least seems slow. I've finished all autopsy stuff excpet for discussion of wounds themselves. This includes personal stuff on panel and Specter. But a horrible thought struck me. Can I print my panel correspondance? Or even quote from it without the permission of each member? If not, I'm really up a shaft. It would mean that all the stuff I have I can't use. Certainly, they're not going to give me permission to tie their own noose! If either of you has any knowledge on what proceedure I must follow, please advise. I quote from those letters extensively in this chapter and wrote with the intention of including the letters as part of the appendix.

And it's getting soooooooo long. It seems unbelievable but my entire original manuscript of last summer has been scraped as I attempt to condense. I've just dropped the photos altogether, making casual reference to Z where necessary. I figure the ultimate end of my book is directed toward LHO's innocence. Of course, the medical stuff is key and besides showing how it was used and corrupted to point to LHO while (inadvertantly?) protecting the guilty, I try to show how it indicates an entirely different ammunition than what is alleged to LHO. Then there is all the circumstantial stuff--evidence at TSBD, etc. In place of all the original crap on the photos, I'm going to have an introductory chapter explaining basis for WC conclusions on LHO--general background.

I've decided to do it double-spaced, single-spacing indented quotes. I know this is going to run me a fortune in copying, etc., especially with an appendix currantly 64 pages and possibly (of the actual book) 300 other pages. It seems I'd be taking a risk in sending single-spaced work to publishers. This might dampen their outlook on the whole thing, which doubtlessly needs no further dampening considering the topic. What I'll try to do is get a typewriter with very small print.

Must go now.

Best,

Howard